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**TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A PROVISIONAL DOUBLE
PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PENDING SECOND APPLICATION**

Docket No:
S-3-1

In re Application of: Ronald Underwood et al.

Application No.: 09/512,742

Filed: February 24, 2000

For: Methods for Electrosurgical Tissue Contraction Within the Spine

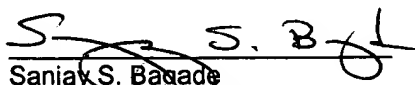
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The owner*, ArthroCare Corporation, of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer filed prior to the grant of any patent granted on pending second Application Number 09/026,698, filed on February 20, 1998, of any patent on the pending second application. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173 of any patent granted on the second application, as shortened by any terminal disclaimer filed prior to the patent grant, in the event that it later: expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321, has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer filed prior to its grant.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Please charge the disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) to **Deposit Account No. 50-0359**. The undersigned is the attorney of record.


Sanjay S. Bagade
Registration No. 42,280

3/10/03
Date

*Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is required if terminal disclaimer is signed by the assignee(owner).